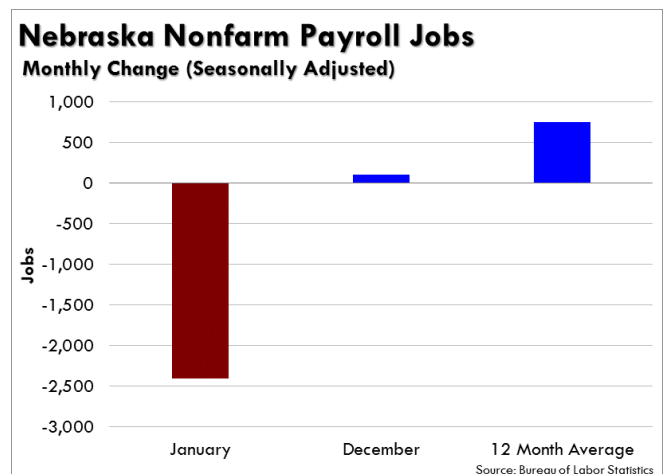
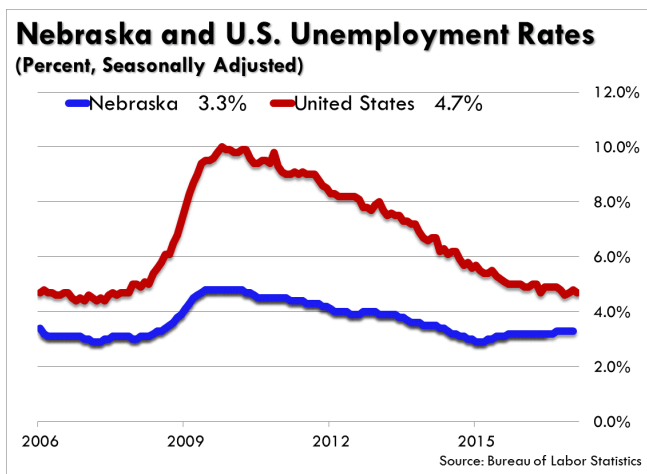


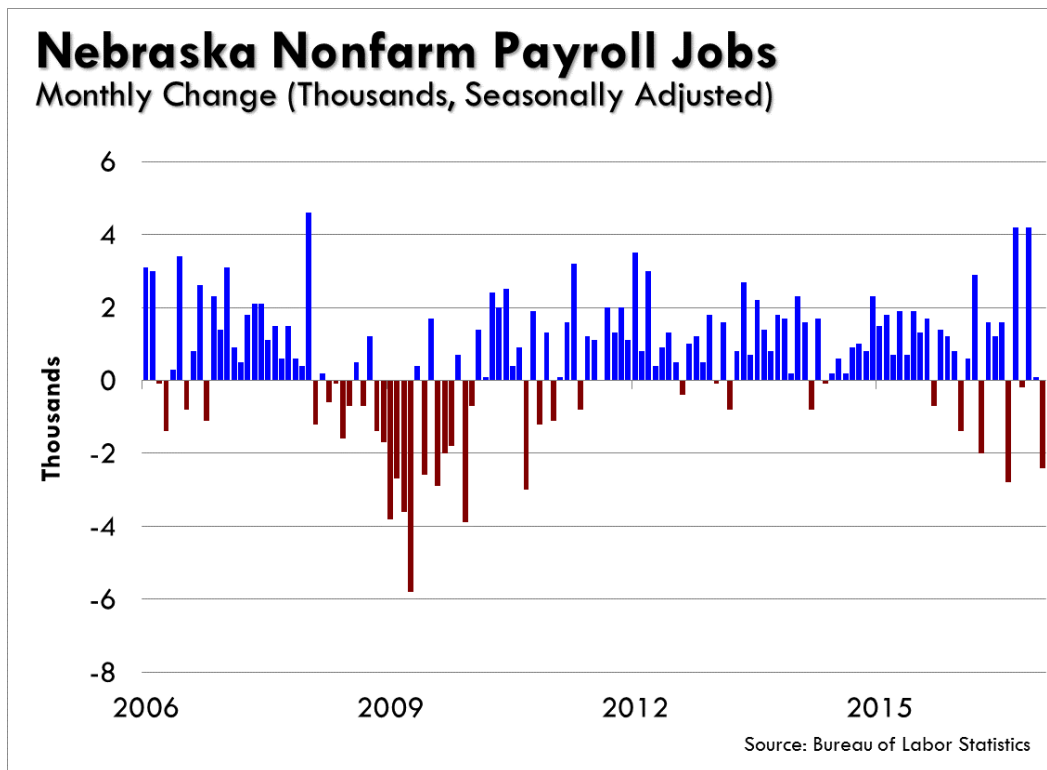


March 14, 2017

Summary

- **Nebraska lost 2,400 jobs and the unemployment rate was unchanged at 3.3 percent in January** according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data.
- **Over the past twelve months, Nebraska added 9,000 jobs** and the unemployment rate rose by 0.1 percentage point from 3.2 percent.
- **In January, Nebraska's private sector lost 2,800 jobs** and over the past twelve months it created 9,300 jobs.
- The number of **unemployed Nebraskans fell by 187 in January**, and over the past year 942 Nebraskans found jobs.
- Nebraska's **labor force participation rate remains unchanged** from 69.3 percent in January. Since last year, the labor force participation rate fell 0.4 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **declined by 0.1 percentage point to 4.7 percent in February**. State employment and unemployment data for February is scheduled for release on March 24, 2017. The national employment situation report for March will be released on Friday, April 7, 2017.





Nebraska Payroll Employment

Nebraska lost 2,400 jobs, or 0.23 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during January. In the prior month, Nebraska added 100 jobs. Over the past twelve months, nonfarm payrolls in Nebraska increased by 9,000, or 0.89 percent. Nebraska nonfarm payroll employment has increased in 8 of the past 12 months.

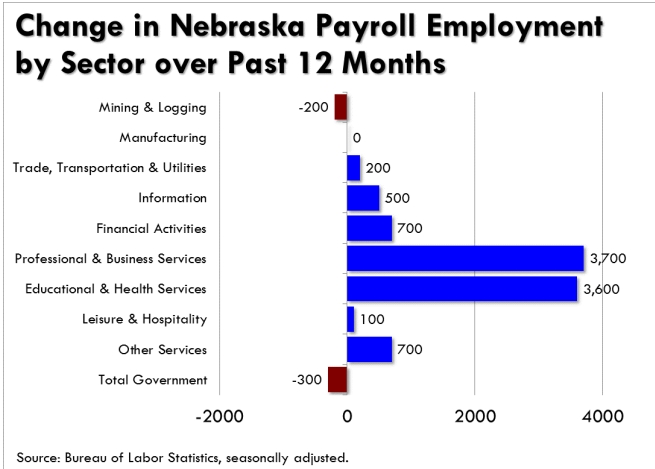
Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 235,000 jobs in February, or 0.16 percent. Over the 12-month period ending February 2017, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,350,000 jobs, or 1.64 percent. Nebraska ranks 40th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

During January, Nebraska's private-sector lost 2,800 jobs, or 0.33 percent. The private-sector in Nebraska added 500 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in Nebraska increased by 9,300, or 1.11 percent. Nebraska private-sector payroll employment has increased in 9 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 227,000 jobs in February, or 0.18 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,156,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.78 percent. Nebraska ranks 40th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during January were Educational & Health Services (+600), Professional & Business Services (+400), and Total Government (+400). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Trade, Transportation & Utilities (-1,500) and Leisure & Hospitality (-1,500).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Professional & Business Services (+3,700) and Educational & Health Services (+3,600). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Total Government (-300) and Mining & Logging (-200).



Nebraska Labor Force Statistics

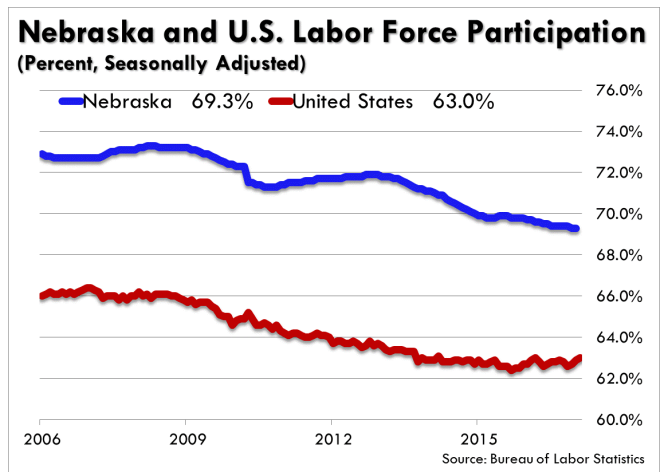
Labor Force Participation

The labor force participation rate in Nebraska was unchanged at 69.3 percent in January. At 69.3 percent, Nebraska has one of the five highest labor force participation rates in the nation. The labor force participation rate in Nebraska is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in Nebraska was 73.3 percent in May 2008. The series high for the labor force participation rate in Nebraska occurred in April 2003 when the labor force participation rate hit 73.9 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 69.3 percent in January 2017. The series low for the labor force participation rate occurred in May 1976 when the labor force participation rate hit 65.1 percent. The national labor force participation rate rose by 0.1 percentage point to 63.0 percent in February, but remains near its 38-year low of 62.4 percent.

Employment-to-Population Ratio

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the Nebraska civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, was unchanged at



67.0 percent in January. At 67.0 percent, Nebraska has one of the five highest employment-to-population ratios in the nation. The employment-to-population ratio in Nebraska is 0.5 percentage point lower than a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in Nebraska was 71.0 percent in March 2008. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in Nebraska occurred in December 1998 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 71.7 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 67.0 percent in January 2017. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in March 1976 when the employment-to-population ratio was 63.0 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio rose by 0.1 percentage point to 60.0 percent in February. That rate was 0.2 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.

